



A G E N D A
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, September 15, 2009, 7:00 PM
Council Chambers,
Oconee County Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC

1. Call to Order
2. Moment of Silence
3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America
4. Approval of Minutes:
 - o September 1, 2009: Regular Council Meeting
 - o September 8, 2009: Special Council Meeting *[provided under separate cover]*
 - o September 9, 2009: Special Council Meeting *[provided under separate cover]*
 - o September 10, 2009: Special Council Meeting *[provided under separate cover]*
5. ACOG Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Oconee County for 2009 / Chip Bentley, Planning Services Director
6. Introduction of new Information Technology Director
7. CAFR [Comprehensive Annual Financial Report] Award Presentation to Finance Department from the Government Financial Office *[tentative based on getting GFO Official to attend]*
8. Public Comment Session *(Limited to forty (40) minutes, four (4) minutes per person.)*
Comments MUST be related to a specific agenda item slated for action at this meeting
9. Extended Public Comment Session *(Limited to 2 citizens per meeting, prior scheduling required with Clerk to Council, five [5] minutes per person. Comments not limited to specific agenda item)*
 - None Scheduled for this Meeting
10. Consideration of the Following Ordinances
[1] First Reading [in title only] of **Ordinance 2009-20** “AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010 BUDGET APPROPRIATES ORDINANCE FOR OCONEE COUNTY IN CERTAIN LIMITED REGARDS AND PARTICULARS, ONLY; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO”
11. Discussion & Possible Action Items:
[1] FY 2009-2010 Oconee County Millage Presentation
Millage is set each September for the tax year to cover the following expenditures: [1] County, School District and Oconee’s share of Tri-County Tech’s operating budgets, [2] Bond payments for the County, School District and Tri-County Tech, and [3] Special Projects as set forth by County Council such as Economic Development and Bridges & Culverts.
Millage is set in September to provide tax calculations for timely processing of tax notices beginning in October.
[2] Consent Agenda Items / ATAX
LOCAL ATAX:
 - a. Oconee Magazine Advertising
Oconee Magazine is a publication published 6 times per year which showcases Oconee County businesses, people and culture, the products and services of the county, and other resources that contribute to the local economy. This magazine is placed in tourism destinations, SC Welcome Centers, businesses and industries, Chambers of Commerce, and State Parks.
 - b. PRT Brochure re-order
The Parks and Recreation brochure highlighting the county parks is almost out of stock. This request is to update and reprint 5,000 more copies for distribution. These brochures are available at all the South Carolina Welcome Centers throughout the State and used in promotions, trade shows and mail outs.

[2] Consent Agenda Items / ATAX [continued]

c. Southern Women's Show-Savannah, GA

The PRT Commission requests the use of up to \$6,000.00 from the 75% fund of the local accommodations tax for all costs associated with having an Oconee County booth at the upcoming Southern Women's Show. These funds will cover booth expenses, as well as travel, lodging and per diem for staff and several commission members to work the 3 day show from February 5-7, 2010. The Women's Show Series attracts thousands of women, ages 25-64, who come to shop, evaluate, make decisions and buy. The Women's Show Series, launched in 1982, focuses on fashion, food, fitness, health, business, education, travel, leisure, home and art. This provides an opportunity to showcase Oconee County and the surrounding lakes to the Savannah region.

STATE ATAX:

a. Blue Ridge Arts Center

~ POP Open Studio Tour-advertising

Funds will be used to enhance participation in the second annual "Pickens, Oconee and Pendleton (POP) Open Studio" Tour in April, 2010. BRAC's goal is to encourage viewers' attendance from communities more than 50 miles away. Advertisements throughout the region in a variety of media, the design, printing and mailing of invitations, show cards, printing of the exhibition catalog, and advertising for the opening reception will be included in the funded activities.

~ Two Fine Folk and Energy advertising

The "Two Fine Folk" show is an opportunity for visitors to view the nature and caliber of the work.

b. West Oak Young Farmers & Agribusiness Association advertising

ATAX grant request from West Oak Young Farmers Agribusiness Association in the amount of \$22,050.00 for Advertising the Carolina Foothills Heritage Foothills Fair via internet, network television, magazine, and special interest papers/publications. Request approved in ATAX Committee on 08/26/09. With this being a first year show, ATAX committee highly recommended that attendance logs be maintained to prove tourist participation for future funding.

c. Oconee Community Theater Advertising

ATAX grant request from Oconee Community Theatre in the amount of \$1,545.00 for advertising the upcoming shows.

d. Walhalla Merchants Association – Oktoberfest Advertising

ATAX grant request from Walhalla Merchants Association in the amount of \$8,600.00.00 for Radio/TV/Newspaper/Magazine Advertising to promote 2010 Oktoberfest.

[3] 30% ATAX fund distributed to the Oconee Tourism Commission / \$10,600

In accordance to SC Code of Laws 6-4-10 (3), Oconee County selected the Chambers of Commerce collectively in 1992 through the Oconee Tourism Commission to manage this fund. The Oconee Tourism Commission is made up of seven members representing all three Chambers of Commerce including 3 from the Greater Oconee Chamber, two from the Greater Walhalla Chamber and two from the Greater Westminster Chamber. The Oconee Tourism Commission shall submit for approval a budget for the planned expenditures to County Council. This will be done twice a year in July and September following the receipts of the 3rd quarter and 4th quarter checks.

[4] PRT Commission / Duke Energy Lease Extension / South Cove & High Falls County Parks

Oconee County has leased land along Lake Keowee from Duke Energy at no cost since the early 1970's to operate High Falls and South Cove County Parks. In an effort to continually qualify for available grants, it is necessary that we extend our long term control of the property and the lease agreement with Duke Energy

[5] BVB 08-04 / 2 Pierce Contender Commercial Pumper Trucks / \$612,340

The Oconee County Volunteer Fire Department's fire trucks have been on a fifteen year replacement cycle. The Cleveland truck to be replaced is 20 years old and the Long Creek truck in 21 years old. Both older trucks will be used as reserve trucks for the proposed substation in Long Creek and at as a general county reserve vehicle. Use of this truck as reserve will necessitate the purchase of a list of "loose equipment" such as hoses, nozzles, air packs, lights and tools necessary to stock the new trucks since the current equipment will stay on the older trucks.

Staff recommends purchase of two commercial pumper trucks from Spartan Fire & Emergency Apparatus of Roebuck, SC in the amount of \$612,340 with pricing per BVB 08-04.

Staff also recommends approval by Council for the balance of funding, \$87,660, to be used for the purchase of the "loose equipment" necessary to make the new trucks fully operational.

[6] Sole Source / Firehouse Software / \$50,124.75

Previously the volunteer fire and rescue stations have used different methods of reporting and for record keeping. With this software in all stations as well as Emergency Services, the County will standardize and improve the reporting of incidents, the tracking of inventory assigned to stations, record keeping of training for personnel, and equipment and water supply testing records for all locations. The use of this software will assist the stations in compliance with OSHA regulations, National fire protection Association Standards, State and Federal reporting requirement and will improve ISO ratings.

Staff recommends the award as a sole source provider for Firehouse Software [to include support contract and enterprise system] to ASC Government Systems, Inc of Urbandale, IA in the amount of \$50,124.75.

- [7] **Bid 09-05 / Physicals for Firefighters / Upstate Medical Associates, PA / \$84,930**
 Oconee County Rural Fire and Emergency Services have approximately 400 firefighters for 14 volunteer fire stations, one haz-mat station and eight rescue stations, including rescue divers and emergency first responders. OSHA guidelines mandate that any personnel who fight fire and/or wear an air pack or bunker gear, and can pass a qualified face fit test, must have an annual physical provided by their employer.
 This bid requested blood resting, thorough stress and cardio testing and physical exams that would be administered at a medical office located within Oconee County. The medical practice also was asked to administer the tests and physical exams during the early morning, evening and Saturday hours to accommodate the volunteer's schedules.
Staff recommends that Council award Bid 09-05 to Upstate Medical Associates, PA of Seneca, SC, for the amount of \$84,930, for a period of one year with the option to renew for four additional one year periods. Additionally, staff recommends that Council authorize the County Administrator to review the contract for up to four one year periods, provided their work is satisfactory.
- [8] **RFQ 09-01 / Pre-Qualification of Firms to Provide Legal Services**
 This RFQ was issued to pre-quality local attorneys to assist the County in legal matters. McNair Law Firm will continue to maintain central responsibility for advising Oconee County and will continue as the County Attorney. In an effort to save tax payers' monies, the local attorney[s] will be utilized whenever possible.
 An evaluation committee reviewed the four firms who submitted statements. One firm submitting a statement did not meet the minimum requirements set forth in the request for qualifications. Engagement letters will be issued to each attorney for specific legal projects as they arise. Legal costs will be funded from the professional services line item 010-709-30025-0.
Staff recommends that pre-qualification of the following firms: Allmon Law Firm, PC, of Seneca, SC; Clauer Law Firm LLC, of Salem SC; and Stephanie M. Corley, PC of Walhalla, SC to assist the County with future legal issues including but not limited to real estate acquisition and disposition, magistrate court actions, road closure matters and delinquent tax enforcement.
- [9] **Human Resources / ACOG Department Head Training / \$300**
 County department heads conduct interviews for all vacancies within their division. Interviewing is a very sensitive responsibility of knowing what you can and cannot ask during the process. Training for department heads was last done in 1998.
Staff recommends authorizing ACOG to conduct Department Head Training related to interviewing skills in the amount of \$300.

12. Board & Commission Appointments *[none at this meeting]*

13. Commission / Board Reports to Council
- Library Board
- [Infrastructure Advisory Commission will report on October 6, 2009]*

Council Committee Reports

- Budget, Finance & Administration / Mr. Dexter
- Transportation / Mr. Thrift

14. Administrator Report
15. Old Business
16. New Business
17. Executive Session *[for the purpose of receiving legal advise]*
18. Adjourn

[This agenda is not inclusive of all issues which Council may bring up for discussion at this meeting.]

Oconee County Council & Committee meeting schedules and agendas are posted at the Oconee County Administration Building and are available on the County Council Website
www.oconeesc.com/council.html

[All upcoming meetings will be held in Council Chambers unless otherwise noted]